"ONE OF THE MOST COMPELLING STORIES IN COMICS"
- COMICS ALLIANCE
THE ULTIMATE BETRAYAL
#1
OF 4
MEGA MAN™
FLYNN
ODAGAWA
MARTIN
Archie ACTION!
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MEGA MAN™ | 45
SPAZ
BETRAYED!

IN THE YEAR 20XX, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN HAS PLEDGED TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR. WILY AND PROTECT THE WORLD. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!

CHARACTER SELECT

MEGA MAN
BATTLE-WEARY ROBOT

DR. LIGHT
IDEALISTIC INVENTOR

BREAK MAN
DR. WILY'S ENFORCER

DR. WILY
EGOMANIAC

MEGA MAN™

PREVIOUSLY...

THE DOCTOR IS IN

Dr. Light built the super-robot Gamma to be a force of good. Its size and power could handle any global catastrophe. The titan needed the power of eight Energy Elements to operate – crystalline batteries of unequalled power. These Energy Elements were stolen by the eight "rogue" Robot Masters on the day of Gamma's unveiling.

But the Robot Masters were secretly following the orders of Dr. Wily. Having been cleared of all crimes, the mad genius was working with Dr. Light while under house arrest. While Mega Man and his creator were busy chasing down the Robot Masters, Dr. Wily was plotting to steal Gamma.

And now it's time for Dr. Wily **to strike...**

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MEGA MAN
SUPER FIGHTING ROBOT (WHO NEEDS A BREAK)
FASTER, BOY, FASTER!
MEGA MAN TO LIGHT LABS--AGAIN! MY TELEPORT SIGNAL IS BEING BLOCKED AND NOBODY IS ANSWERING! SOMEBODY SAY SOMETHING SO I CAN STOP--
The ULTIMATE BETRAYAL
PART ONE:
Making it Personal
RUSH JET
FAITHFUL ROBO-DOG (IN FLIGHT MODE)
--WORRYING.
WHY IS THE LAB ON FIRE?!
LAND, RUSH! WE'VE GOT TO SEE IF--!

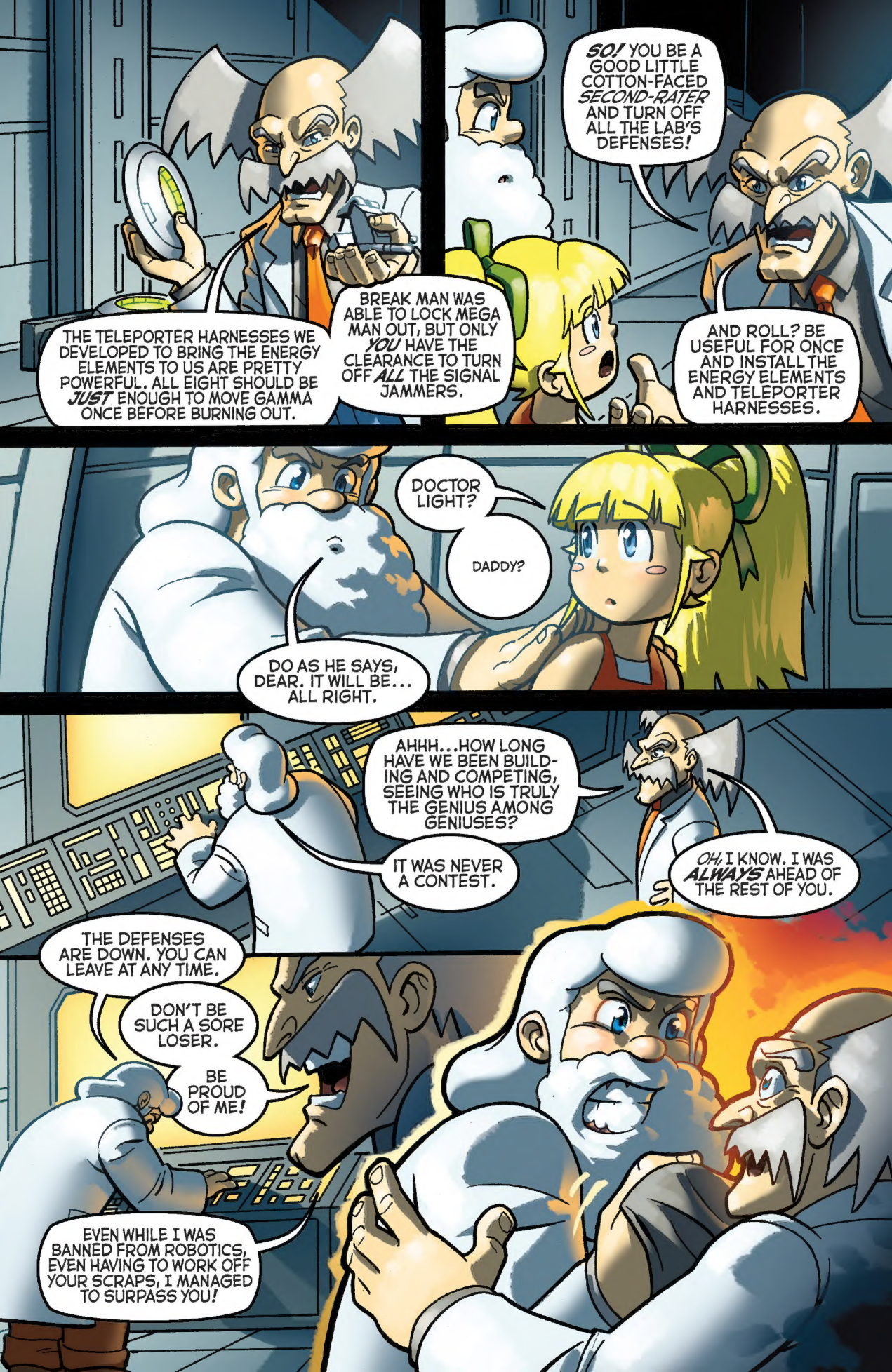
WAITAMINUTE ...THAT'S--!
ARGH!
BLAM!
BLAM!
YIPE!
THUD!
THE DOCTOR CAN'T SEE YOU RIGHT NOW. HE'S BUSY WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
BREAK MAN
ROBOT OF MYSTERY

MEAN-WHILE, INSIDE LIGHT LABS...
HONESTLY, THOMAS! STOP BEING DIFFICULT!
SHOULD WE FAN THE FLAMES, SIR?
OR JUST BLOW MORE STUFF UP?!
DR. ALBERT W. WILY
MADMAN
NEITHER WILL BE NECESSARY--IF TOM THERE COOPERATES!
DOC ROBOT
MODEL #: K-176
COMPOSITE ROBOT MASTER
(DANGEROUSLY OVERLOADED WITH MULTIPLE I.C. CHIPS)
ROLL
MEGA MAN'S SISTER
I AM NOT GIVING YOU ACCESS TO GAMMA! MEGA MAN WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE, AND IT WILL BE ALL OVER FOR YOU!
DR. THOMAS LIGHT
DREAMS OF A BETTER TOMORROW
AH, YES! YOUR PRECIOUS SECOND SON, WHO BARELY SURVIVED FIGHTING EIGHT OF MY GLORIOUS ROBOT MASTERS.
LET HIM COME! WE'RE ALL DYING FOR A REMATCH!
HEH HEH, TOO BAD. BREAK MAN IS HANDLING THINGS.
"BREAK MAN." YOU THINK I DON'T RECOG-NIZE MY OWN BOY?!
HE'S MINE NOW.

YOU LIED! YOU LIED TO US THE WHOLE TIME! YOU HURT AUTO! YOU PUT ROCK THROUGH MORE HORRIBLE FIGHTING!
JUST --GET OUT!
ROLL! STOP!
CRACK
WE COULD'VE DODGED THAT. WE SHOULD HAVE.
ALL THAT HAIR... IT'S DISTRACTING!
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO HARM A LITTLE HELPER ROBOT?
SHE TOOK THE FIRST SWING! WE'LL TAKE THE LAST!
VWOOSH!
EEEEK!

THAT WAS WEAK SAUCE! SWITCHING WEAPONS!
WE ARE NOT SHOOTING A CHILD!
YES WE ARE!
WHIRRR-
CLICK!
SPLOSH!
ROLL!
CAREFUL WITH THE SPLASH DAMAGE!
YOU CRAMMED US ALL IN HERE! IT'S HARD FOR US TO... PROCESS!
WHAT CAN I SAY? MY DIVERSE OPERATIONS CIRCUIT ROBOT IS A LITTLE BUGGY. WHY DON'T YOU JUST HAND OVER THE KEYS TO GAMMA BEFORE "DOC" HERE DOES SOMETHING REGRETTABLE?
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT WE'LL SHOOT NEXT!
DON'T.
FINE, ALBERT. YOU WIN.

WORDS I'VE *LIVED* TO HEAR! RIGHT THIS WAY, OLD CHUM!
WHATEVER YOU SAY.
I'LL INSTALL THESE LAST TWO ENERGY ELEMENTS AND BE ON MY MERRY WAY!
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.
DON'T GET CUTE WITH ME, TOM.
I'M *NOT.* GAMMA REQUIRES A NEW ACTIVATION PASSWORD *EVERY DAY.* IT'S A RANDOM WORD OF MY CHOICE, AND *ONLY* BY MY VOICE IMPRINT.
GAMMA WON'T OPERATE WITHOUT ME.
WELL, *THAT'S* OBNOXIOUS. I CAN'T HAVE YOU HANGING AROUND, GETTING UNDER FOOT...
BAH! I'M A GENIUS! I'LL FIND A WORK-AROUND FOR IT.
SO, HOW TO GET GAMMA OUT OF HERE? *HMMM-MMM-MMM-AH-HA!*


THE TELEPORTER HARNESSES WE DEVELOPED TO BRING THE ENERGY ELEMENTS TO US ARE PRETTY POWERFUL. ALL EIGHT SHOULD BE JUST ENOUGH TO MOVE GAMMA ONCE BEFORE BURNING OUT.
BREAK MAN WAS ABLE TO LOCK MEGA MAN OUT, BUT ONLY YOU HAVE THE CLEARANCE TO TURN OFF ALL THE SIGNAL JAMMERS.
SO! YOU BE A GOOD LITTLE COTTON-FACED SECOND-RATER AND TURN OFF ALL THE LAB'S DEFENSES!
AND ROLL? BE USEFUL FOR ONCE AND INSTALL THE ENERGY ELEMENTS AND TELEPORTER HARNESSES.
DOCTOR LIGHT?
DADDY?
DO AS HE SAYS, DEAR. IT WILL BE... ALL RIGHT.
AHHH...HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN BUILDING AND COMPETING, SEEING WHO IS TRULY THE GENIUS AMONG GENIUSES?
IT WAS NEVER A CONTEST.
OH, I KNOW. I WAS ALWAYS AHEAD OF THE REST OF YOU.
THE DEFENSES ARE DOWN. YOU CAN LEAVE AT ANY TIME.
DON'T BE SUCH A SORE LOSER.
BE PROUD OF ME!
EVEN WHILE I WAS BANNED FROM ROBOTICS, EVEN HAVING TO WORK OFF YOUR SCRAPS, I MANAGED TO SURPASS YOU!

YOU FOUND BLUES.
YOU SENT HIM AGAINST ROCK.
YOU HAD HIM SHOOT ROLL.
AND YOU DID IT WHILE LOOKING ME IN THE EYE AND SMILING.
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT, DOCTOR.
=AHEM= YES, WELL, THE JOKE'S ON YOU FOR BELIEVING ME.
EVERYTHING'S DONE. YOU CAN STEAL ALL OF DOCTOR LIGHT'S HARD WORK NOW. AGAIN.
HONESTLY, WHY DID HE PROGRAM SO MUCH SASS INTO YOU?
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS LACKED, THOMAS? HUMILITY. AND I, BEING SUCH A GENEROUS FRIEND, WILL GIVE IT TO YOU.
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR CHILDREN. LITTLE MISS MOUTHY AND WHATEVER BREAK MAN SPARES OF MEGA TWERP.
BUT YOUR LAB IS FORFEIT. DOC ROBOT, LEVEL EVERYTHING ABOVE THE HANGAR, THEN MEET ME AT THE CASTLE! HAHAHAHAHA!
NO!!!!!

OUTSIDE...
KZZZT!
WEAPON EQUIP!
SPARK SHOCK
SHING!
CHOMP!
WEAPON EQUIP!
SHADOW BLADE
SHING!
BLAM!
YIPE!
DON'T!
HE'S MY DOG!
AND?
AND--?!
HE... HE...HE HAS ALL THE I.C. CHIPS OF THE OTHER ROBOT MASTERS! IF THEY GET DAMAGED, THEIR DATA WILL BE LOST FOR-EVER!

GOOD ENOUGH. FUNNY, THOUGH, COMING FROM THEIR EXECU-TIONER.
I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANY-BODY! NOT EVEN YOU!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, BLUES? WHY ARE YOU HELPING--?
BLUES IS GONE! GONE AND FORGOTTEN!
I AM BREAK M--!

WHA-
BOOM!

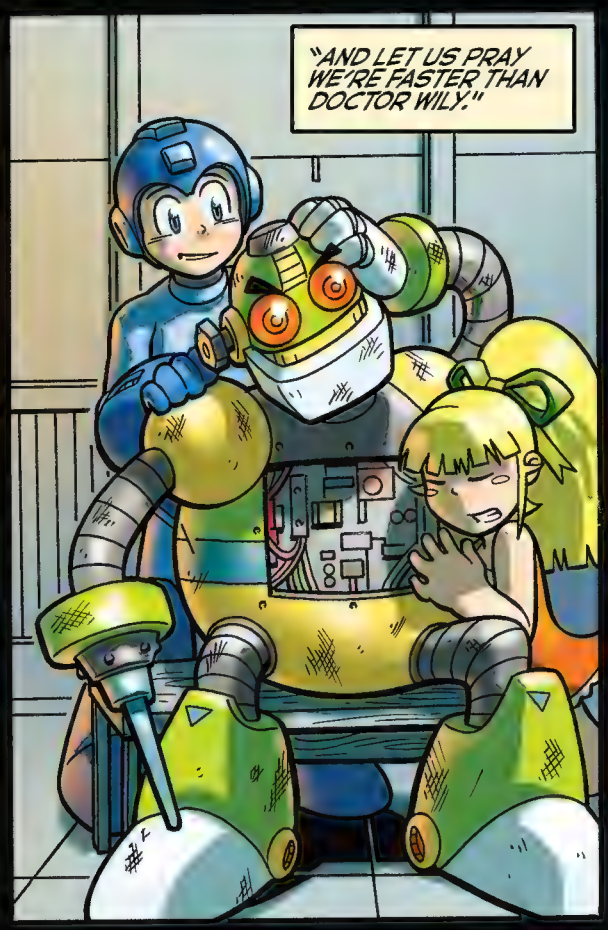
DOCTOR WILY?!
HAHAHA! IS THE LAB GONE? WAS IT GLORIOUS? AHH... DON'T WORRY, BREAK MAN, I'M FINE AND BACK AT THE CASTLE.
WHAT ABOUT DOCTOR LIGHT AND ROLL?
WATCH YOUR TONE! I'M VENGEFUL, BUT I'M NOT A MONSTER. THEY'RE IN GAMMA'S BUNKER.
THEY'RE SAFE, THEN. ALIVE.
WHAT DO YOU CARE? GET BACK TO BASE WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH MEGA BRAT.
YOU...YOU...!
SAVE IT. YOU'RE IN NO CONDITION TO FIGHT ME.
HERE.
REPAIR. REFUEL.
MEET ME AT THE COORDINATES ON THAT DRIVE.
WE'LL FINISH THINGS THEN.
Bwoo-whip

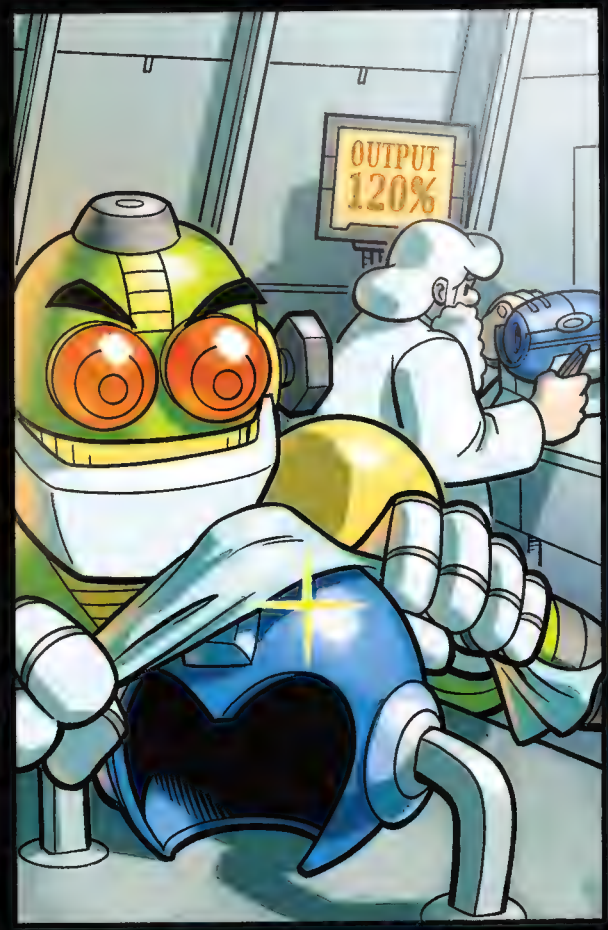
ROLL?! DAD?!
ROCK! OVER HERE!
HOW ARE YOU STILL STANDING?! WHAT DID THEY DO TO YOU?!
I'LL BE *OKAY,* SO LONG AS YOU TWO ARE FINE.
I AM NOT ***FINE.*** I AM A ***FOOL.*** A NAIVE, GULLIBLE...
...FOOL!
...FOOL!
...FOOL!
...FOOL!
D-DAD?

I JUST HANDED THE MOST POWERFUL PIECE OF MACHINERY IN THE WORLD TO A MADMAN COMPLETELY DEVOID OF ANY SCRUPLES!
BUT WHAT ELSE COULD I DO? I COULDN'T LET HIM HURT MY CHILDREN! I ALREADY LOST *ONE* TO HIM! I CAN'T LOSE ANY MORE!
NO! I'LL JUST LOSE MY ROBOT MASTERS! AND GAMMA! AND MY DESIGNS! AND MY HOPES! MY DREAMS!
AND THE WORLD CAN PAY THE PRICE!
HE WAS MY FRIEND. I TRUSTED HIM. BECAUSE THERE IS GOOD IN EVERYONE. ISN'T THERE? AM I *THAT* DELUDED...?

YOU'RE JUST ONE MAN, DADDY. TRYING TO CHANGE THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER.
AND YOU DID. THE ROBOT MASTERS AND OTHER ROBOTS HELPED THE WORLD BOUNCE BACK AFTER RA MOON.*
*MEGA MAN VOLUME 7.
THAT'S WHY YOU BUILT US, RIGHT? TO HELP YOU THROUGH THE HARD TIMES?
I'VE MADE PLENTY OF MISTAKES, BUT YOU HELPED ME THROUGH THEM, TRUSTING DOCTOR WILY AGAIN WAS A MISTAKE, SO NOW I WILL HELP YOU FIX IT.
IT'S WHAT I'M COUNTING ON. HEAVEN HELP YOU...MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS, "MEGA MAN WILL SAVE US."
I HAVE NO RIGHT TO TO ASK THIS, BUT...
...WILL YOU SAVE THE WORLD ONE MORE TIME? WILL YOU BE THE COURAGE AND STRENGTH I LACK?
I'M YOUR SON. OF COURSE I WILL.

THANK YOU.
WE *MUST* HURRY. IF DR. WILY GAINS CONTROL OF GAMMA AND UNLEASHES IT UPON THE WORLD, *NOTHING* WILL BE ABLE TO STOP HIM.
I HEARD...*BREAK MAN* TALKING TO DR. WILY. THEY'VE RETREATED TO A NEW CASTLE. BREAK MAN GAVE ME ITS COORDINATES.
WHY?! HE'S AS BAD AS WILY, TOYING WITH US! IT'S PROBABLY A TRAP!
NO...I DOUBT THAT. HE *DID* GIVE US THE KEY TO RESISTING RA MOON'S POWER BEFORE.* I BELIEVE HE EARNESTLY WANTS TO FACE MEGA MAN.
*MEGA MAN VOL. 7, "BLACKOUT."
YOU AND RUSH WILL NEED TO BE REPAIRED AND REARMED. WE'LL NEED AUTO'S HELP, BUT HE'S BEEN BADLY DAMAGED, TOO. YOU'LL FIND HIM...IN WHAT'S LEFT OF THE LAB.
OH, NO--AUTO! C'MON, RUSH!
WHAT ABOUT THE LAB?
WE'LL REBUILD ONCE THIS IS ALL OVER. WE HAVE ENOUGH SUPPLIES AND TOOLS DOWN HERE TO DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE FOR NOW.


"AND LET US PRAY WE'RE FASTER THAN DOCTOR WILY."


OUTPUT
120%

SCHEMATIC
#TUBP1-0914
CRANIAL OVERRIDE
AND CONTROL DEVICE
A.K.A. I WIN AGAIN

click!
PSHHHH!
RECHARGING
87%
VREEEE

AND SO...
I FEEL LIKE A MILLION ZENNY! THANKS, EVERYONE!
BE CAREFUL, ROCK!
GIVE HIM ONE FOR ME, BIG BLUE!
THIS IS IT, SON. WITH THE LAB RUINED, I WON'T BE ABLE TO LOOK AFTER YOU. ONCE YOU HEAD OUT, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
I KNOW. YOU'VE PREPARED ME FOR IT. I'LL FINALLY PUT AN END TO THIS, DAD.
COME BACK TO ME, SON. THAT'S WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT.
C'MON, RUSH. LET'S GO BE HEROES.
ARF!
BWOO-whip
BWOO-whip

BWOO-whip
BWOO-whip
THIS IS IT! AFTER ALL THE DELAYS AND FALSE STARTS!
MEGA MAN VERSUS BREAK MAN--
NOTHING HELD BACK!
UNTIL THEN, CATCH UP ON ALL THE PAST ACTION WITH THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

MEGA MAIL PRESENTS

MASTER WORKS

YOUR MEGA MAN FAN ART

Nathan C. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Angel S. from Merida

Carter S. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Kathy B. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

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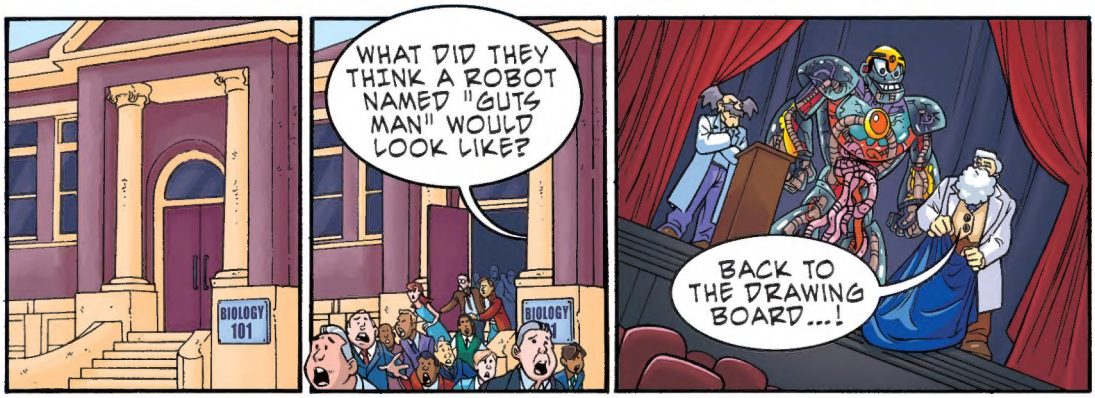
– SHORT CIRCUITS –

PRESENTS: ROBOT MASTER MEGA-FAILS



SCRIPT: T. REX PENCILS: STEVEN GORDON INKS: PHYLLIS NOVIN COLORS: VINCENT LOVALLO

MEGA MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC. P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM OR TWEET AT US USING #MEGAMAIL!

Dear Mega-Mail,
Issues #42 and 43 have been my favorite issues so far. It was pretty depressing, if not tragic, how Quick Man, Needle Man and Magnet Man spoke about their lack of free will.

Hello there! Yes, it's unfortunate that the Robot Masters can only function within the limits of what their programming allows them to do. They could be doing much more than carrying out Dr. Wily's ambitions, but I suppose that's how it goes when you're working under the influence of an evil mad man!

Needle Man's dialogue with Mega Man almost paints Mega Man as a tragic hero.

It's a tough job and Mega Man would rather not do it, but his will to help people is strong and he'll do all he can to save the world!

I'm sure this won't be the last time we'll see a character have an internal struggle like this (X). Speaking of which, I hope we get to see more X in the future! Perhaps a graphic novel of the first Mega Man X game?

Jake S. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Thanks, Jake! That sure would be something! While I can't give away too much, I think you'll be pleasantly surprised with what we have in store for all you Mega-Fans down the road, including X's inclusion in Worlds Unite!

Dear Mega-Mail,
Hi there! I think that out of all the adaptations of the Mega Man games you've done so far, this Mega Man 3 one is the best. It was fun seeing everything build up to it.

A lot of time and planning is put in to these stories! Glad to hear it's paying off!

I really liked the ending of issue 43. It was like I was watching a scary movie! I also liked what Needle Man said about all that robots do is fight. It's a really emotional scene that was really thoroughly written, so yay for Ian Flynn for making such a good, scratch that, AWESOME script.

There were so many great moments and there are still more to come! Also, I second your "yay" for Ian!

In closing I would like to ask for the spot of Bright Man's #1 fan. Thanks!

Ethan B. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing to us, Ethan (aka Bright Man's #1 fan)!

See y'all next time for "The Ultimate Betrayal" part two!

COMING SOON!

NEXT ISSUE:
THE ULTIMATE BETRAYAL
PART TWO OF FOUR